

SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SAFE CARS SAVE LIVES

CHECK FOR RECALLS

What's NHTSA?

The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is the official federal safety authority that works to keep you and your loved ones safe on our roads.

How do we do it?

NHTSA manages vehicle safety recalls, sets vehicle safety standards and requires automakers to recall vehicles that have safety defects or don't meet those standards.



Why is addressing your safety recall important?

25%

Recalls are prompted by significant safety concerns. Even so, **A QUARTER OF CARS** are never repaired.

That means potentially millions of vehicles with life-threatening safety defects are still on the road.



How do recalls start?

Most of the time, car manufacturers initiate recalls on their own, but if a safety defect is hard to detect or prove, NHTSA may investigate whether a recall is needed.



- We analyze consumer reports, data from manufacturers, and other information from testing and inspections
- 2 Conduct a formal investigation
- 3 Evaluate the level of risk of each safety issue

If we believe **THE RISK** for injury and death is too high, we require the manufacturer to issue a recall and fix the problem.

What **triggers** a recall?

Recalls can be prompted by steering, fuel systems, braking, wheels, air bags, wiring or other components that can pose **A SERIOUS SAFETY RISK.**



How can you stay safe?

If your car has a recall, **GET IT FIXED. IT COULD SAVE A LIFE.** Also, check your car for recalls at least twice a year, and sign up to receive alerts about new recalls at **safercar.gov/checkforrecalls**.



How do you know if **your car** is recalled?

Automakers notify all car owners by first-class mail, and your dealer will **REPAIR IT FOR FREE.** You can also call your dealer or check NHTSA's VIN look-up tool on **safercar.gov**.

What does a **mailed** recall notification look like?

Keep an eye out for MAIL WITH THIS DISTINCT LABEL from the vehicle manufacturer notifying you of a recall on your vehicle.



Visit NHTSA's **safercar.gov** for more information.